REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-mentioned application is hereby requested in view of the above amendments and remarks which follows.

The Examiner indicated in paragraph 1 of the Office Action that the Oath or Declaration is defective, and that a new Declaration is required in that inconsistencies appear between the title of the application as published by the PCT, as filed herein with the U.S. Patent Office, and as identified in the Declaration. Applicants believe that a new Declaration is not required, as Applicants did not put the title of the application in the Declaration at all. It appears that the PCT Office incorrectly translated the application and entitled the specification "HF" not "RF." 37 C.F.R. §1.63(b)1 indicates that the Declaration must "identify the application to which is directed." Applicants have identified the application by the Application Serial Number and filing date.

The Examiner also objected to Figures 1 and 2 of the specification, indicating that those figures should include a legend clearly indicating that they are prior art. Applicants have attached hereto an amended version for the Examiner's approval with the notation in red in Figures 1 and 2 as prior art (after the figure number).

The Examiner objected to the specification in paragraph 3 and requested that Applicants place the specification in the condition as provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b). Applicants have amended the specification and believe to comply now with the Examiner's request.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art of Figures 1 and 2 in view of Scholtholt (European Patent No. 01 21224).

In the admitted prior art of Figures 1 and 2, the cutting edges 2 do not extend entirely through the wire to contact with the central conductor, that is, the main signal conductor of the coaxial cable, but rather, only extends partially through the outer insulation of the coaxial conductor to contact this shielding braid of the cable 3.

Rather, European Patent No. 01 21224 shows an electrical terminal, which is typically placed in a large array of terminals, where the edges 6 of the terminal contact the inner conductor 16 (Figure 8) when fully terminated to the position shown in Figure 10. Because the two contact arms 3, 4 are connected to the same base portion 1, when a wire is terminated to the position shown in Figures 9 or 11, the configuration is such that an additional torsion P is provided on the wire.

As these two concepts, that is, the prior art of Figures 1 and 2, and that of the European Patent No. 01 21224 are entirely different, no skilled artisan would look to their teachings and

combine them. Moreover, their teachings are inconsistent and would lead away from their combination.

As mentioned above, the prior art of Figures 1 and 2 is not to terminate the central conductor of the wire, but rather only to shear through the outer conductor and terminate the shield. Moreover, if the construction of the European Application were added to the Figures 1 and 2 prior art, the combination would not function according to the specification and claims. Rather, the contact portions 2 would tend to splay further apart, as shown in Figures 9 and 11 version, reducing the effectiveness of the termination. This is due to the construction of the terminals themselves, and their different objects. In the European Application, the terminal is intended to terminate the inner conductor, and therefore the terminal is significantly wider than the wire to be terminated, therefore to cut through the outer insulation. The wire is actually moved to a position where it resides entirely between the terminal, as shown in Figure 10. In the Figures 1 and 2 prior art, the edges are not intended to terminate the central conductor, and therefore the terminal is not intended to cut through the entirety of the cable, but only sever the outer insulation. Thus, given the geometry of the terminals, and the construction of the coaxial cable, if the prior art terminals of Figures 1 and 2 were modified per the European teaching to be bent as shown, any attempt to terminate into the heavy outer coaxial cable insulation would cause them to splay apart, defeating the purpose.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to make it clear that the cutting edges are parallel to each other. Applicants believe it is not taught by either of the references, nor is it taught by their combination. As discussed above, the European Patent No. 01 21224 is to terminate the inner conductor, such as a solid copper conductor, of a telephone wire. Rather, the prior art of the Figures 1 and 2 of the present application is to terminate only to the outer shielding of a coaxial conductor.

The Examiner indicates in the Office Action, on page 5, that Scholtholt establishes a connection with the outer conductor 15. Applicants disagree with this characterization, as Scholtholt does not show an outer conductor at all. Scholtholt discloses a single insulated conductor having an outer insulation surrounding a central wire core 16. As mentioned above, as the contact in European Patent No. 01 21224 is contacting the inner conductor of the insulated wire, the two contact portions 3 and 4 extend from the same plate of material 1. Thus, it would not be obvious to combine the teachings of European Patent No. 01 21224 and that of the Figures 1 and 2 configuration.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."**

Accordingly, passage to issuance is respectfully solicited. If necessary to effect a timely response, please consider this paper a petition for extension of time sufficient to make this response timely and charge any fees due therefore, and charge any other fees due and credit any overpayment of fees to Baker & Daniels Deposit Account No. 02-0387 (72262.00007).

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 3, 2003

February 3, 2003
Date

Eric J. Groen, Reg. No. 32,230

"VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE"

1. **(Amended)** A connector for RF coaxial lines comprising two connector halves for establishing contact with the outer conductor of the RF coaxial line by means of an insulation displacement connection with at least one cutting edge arranged on each connector half, the cutting edges being arranged opposite each other in staggered **and parallel offset** manner in the longitudinal axial direction of the outer conductor and, after penetration of the outer insulation of the RF coaxial line, establish a cold-welding type connection with the outer conductor on the end face and at least one adjacent side face thereof, and the cutting edges, in case of a change in distance of their end faces with respect to each other, slide on the outer conductor without a gap being formed between outer conductor and cutting edges.